

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 2048

Mr. KUHLMAN of New York. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to have my name removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 2048.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

REQUESTING THE SENATE TO RETURN TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES H.R. 503

Mr. KUHLMAN of New York. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged resolution (H. Res. 1011) requesting the return of official papers on H.R. 503, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 1011

Resolved, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives request the Senate to return to the House the bill (H.R. 503) entitled "To amend the Horse Protection Act to prohibit the shipping, transporting, moving, delivering, receiving, possessing, purchasing, selling, or donation of horses and other equines to be slaughtered for human consumption, and for other purposes."

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CATCHING BIN LADEN WON'T MAKE US SAFER?

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise in utter disbelief on hearing comments made by Democrat leaders that the capture of Osama bin Laden would not make America any safer. This statement exemplifies the Democrats' lack of any concrete plan on national security and the global war on terror.

Bin Laden is the alleged orchestrator of the 9/11 attacks, and as he remains on the loose, there is no telling what terrorist activities he may be planning and inciting. He is more than a symbol, he is a threat.

What confuses me even more is the Democrats' criticism of the Republican agenda in winning the war on terror. Democrats accuse Republicans of diverting resources that should be utilized in Afghanistan and then proceed to issue statements that the capture of Osama bin Laden is meaningless, that it would not make us any safer.

So then what is the Democrats' agenda for the war on terror. Give up in Iraq and create a vacuum where regimes that fund and incite terrorist activity can rise again? Leave Afghanistan and cease breaking up terrorist cells?

Mr. Speaker, I have one last question for my colleagues on the other side of the aisle. I know what you are against, but what are you for?

□ 1800

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2005, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

CELEBRATING NATIONAL HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES WEEK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of my special order today.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, the week of September 10 was designated National Historically Black Colleges and Universities Week by legislation introduced by our colleague and my friend, Congresswoman EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, and passed this past July, and I am honored to join my colleagues today in celebrating it.

The contributions made by HBCUs to the African American community, to our country and to our culture cannot be overstated. As President Clinton once noted, "Generations of African American educators, physicians, lawyers, scientists, and other professionals found at HBCUs the knowledge, experience and encouragement they needed to reach their full potential."

The alumni rolls of HBCUs read like a Hall of Fame list, Mr. Speaker: Martin Luther King, Jr., a graduate of Morehouse College; Booker T. Washington, Hampton University, who also helped found the Tuskegee Institute in 1881, what is now known as Tuskegee University; W.E.B. DuBois, Fisk University; and Wilma Rudolph from Tennessee State University.

The list, of course, could go on and on, and indeed I could mention Members of the Congressional Black Caucus itself. In fact, it probably will surprise no one that nearly half of our friends and colleagues in the Congressional Black Caucus received their degrees Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Public service continues to be a hallmark of the graduate of black colleges and universities.

Today, Mr. Speaker, there are 103 Historically Black Colleges and Universities in our Nation, serving more than 260,000 undergraduate students, with 27 percent offering either a first professional degree or a doctorate.

HBCUs confer nearly a quarter of all bachelor's degrees awarded each year to African Americans, and they confer the majority of bachelor's degrees and

advanced degrees awarded to black students in the physical sciences, mathematics, computer science, engineering and education.

The real story, Mr. Speaker, that underlies these figures, is the story of hope and opportunity. Before the Supreme Court's landmark decision in *Brown v. Board of Education* in 1954, African Americans were routinely and unjustly excluded from institutions of higher learning. It didn't matter how smart you were, it didn't matter how much talent or potential you had; the only thing that mattered was the color of your skin. What a failed, immoral policy. But out of that rank injustice, that indefensible racism, was born a fortitude and a determination to rise above, to overcome through education.

Thus, the first black college, what is now known as Cheyney University in Cheyney, Pennsylvania, was founded in 1837. To appreciate the magnitude of this, remember that Cheyney was created a full 28 years before the ratification of the 13th Amendment, to train free blacks to become school teachers. Today, Cheyney continues to serve with great pride as an avenue for African Americans to attend college.

Four of the 103 HBCUs are located in the State of Maryland, including Bowie State University in my own district, a college with which I have been working since 1967 when I was elected to the Maryland State Senate. Bowie was founded in 1865, and is the oldest Historically Black University in Maryland.

The others are a great institution in Baltimore City, Morgan State, and its sister, Coppin State, both in that great city, and the last is the University of Maryland-Eastern Shore, located in Princess Anne.

Let me say as a former member of the Maryland Board of Regents and as someone acutely interested in education and the needs of our youth, I see the manifest vision and the determination of HBCUs in practice every day. I see it in the faces of the children in my district, who know that they will have the opportunity to develop their skills and talents, whether they choose Bowie State, the University of Maryland at College Park or any other school.

I see it in the faces of the young professionals who have attended an HBCU who are now working hard to build their careers and contribute to our society. And, yes, I see it in the faces of those here tonight who appreciate the unique role and history of Historically Black Colleges and Universities and who understand the importance of their continued vibrancy.

We must recognize, Mr. Speaker, that our strength as a Nation lies not just in the quality of the University of Maryland at College Park, but in the excellence of Bowie State. We must realize while we celebrate the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, we also must take joy in the accomplishments of North Carolina A&T.

HBCUs have strengthened our country and enriched our culture beyond measure, and while they can take great pride in their glorious past, it is incumbent upon all of us to ensure that they enjoy an even brighter future.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor our historically black colleges and universities, or HBCU's.

It is important that every American understands the history of these institutions and the great impact that they have had on our Nation, and I thank Representative EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON for introducing the resolution declaring this week "National Historically Black Colleges and Universities Week."

For years, HBCU's offered many African Americans their only educational opportunity. HBCU's remain a vital part of our higher education system because they continue to offer high quality educational opportunities.

In fact, about one-third of black lawyers, one-half of black engineers, two-thirds of black physicians, and four-fifths of black federal judges are graduates of HBCU's.

Among the leaders who HBCU's have produced throughout our history are artists and writers, astronauts, business leaders, civil rights leaders, mayors, Members of Congress, a Supreme Court Justice, university presidents, and countless others.

So, today, we honor HBCU's because of their glorious past and look forward to what I am sure will be an even more glorious future.

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, thank you to my colleagues who have also risen to pay tribute to our nation's historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs). September 10–16 is the week designated by the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities to recognize the work of HBCUs. As a graduate of Florida A&M University (FAMU), a historically black university in Tallahassee, Florida, this occasion holds special significance for me.

Over 40 years ago, I arrived on Florida A&M University's campus in Tallahassee, Florida for my freshman year. At 16 years old, I was a young man with dreams and great ambition like scores of other black men and women who have filled the halls of historically black colleges and universities for more than a century. My story is theirs; like so many HBCU graduates, the invaluable education I received afforded me countless successes throughout my career. After graduating from Florida A&M University in 1967, I attended the Wharton school of business, ran a successful advertising firm, and served in the Georgia State Senate for 26 years. Today I represent the 13th Congressional district.

Indeed just as my experience reflects the opportunities available to HBCU graduates, the evolution of Florida A&M represents the growth of many HBCUs from niche schools to solid academic institutions with national recognition. Florida A&M University evolved from a small, little known school in Florida's panhandle to a university ranked the best overall university for African American students by Black Enterprise in 2006. Florida A&M University has created a culture of achievement in its undergraduate and graduate programs. In 1997 Florida A&M University beat out thousands of institutions to receive the College of the Year honor from Time Magazine-Princeton Review.

Florida A&M University's success is only a part of a larger story of achievement for nu-

merous institutions and the students who fill their hollowed halls. Over 100 HBCUs continue to educate the best and brightest of America's emerging leaders. In 2001, HBCUs awarded one-fifth of all bachelor's degrees earned by black students nationally. HBCU graduates fill professional ranks, closing gaps in professional and economic attainment. One example of this can be found at Xavier University in Louisiana. Xavier University outranks all institutions in the country for the placement of black students into medical schools.

Moreover, HBCUs are embedded within America's historical and cultural fabric. Their accomplished graduates have spurred social change, led political movements, forged divergent artistic paths, and heralded the dawning of new literary ages. To list all the prestigious alumni of HBCUs would require volumes. In summation, it can be said that without them and the institutions that honed their skills, there would have been no Harlem Renaissance, Civil Rights Movement, Brown vs. Board of Education, and countless other eras and historical turning points which redefined the lives of all Americans.

Today I commend the work of HBCUs and the leaders and scholars that have dedicated their abilities to leading them into the 21st Century. I wish each institution a century's more of unparalleled achievement. Borrowing from the Black National Anthem.

... We have come over a way that with tears have been watered,
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,
Out from the gloomy past, Till now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast. ...

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD. Mr. Speaker, this week we celebrate National Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) Week, and all that they have done for our country. While I did not attend an HBCU, I have reaped the benefits of these institutions, as have all Americans.

Historically black colleges and universities were founded at a time when segregation was often the norm, whether officially sanctioned or not. These institutions offered African-Americans the opportunity to pursue an education that may have otherwise been out of their reach. Education is very often the key to a successful and productive life, and HBCUs continue to provide this invaluable asset to thousands of African Americans and other Americans.

HBCUs have helped many students who have gone on to become leaders and who have left a positive and lasting effect on society as a whole. In law and politics, HBCUs have yielded great minds such as Martin Luther King, Jr. and Thurgood Marshall. HBCUs have educated cultural and literary greats such as Toni Morrison, Langston Hughes, and Ralph Ellison. Many talented entertainers and athletes have attended HBCUs, including Oprah Winfrey and football great Walter Payton. These individuals and countless others have gone on to make a significant contribution to society after attending an HBCU. For all that HBCUs have done to improve the lives of African Americans, and for all that these African Americans have in turn done to improve society, we are eternally grateful.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gen-

tleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. POE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

UNJUST PROSECUTION OF TWO U.S. BORDER PATROL AGENTS

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take the time of the gentleman from Texas.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from North Carolina is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am on the floor today to bring to the attention of the House a situation involving two U.S. Border Patrol agents. These agents were found guilty in a Federal Court for wounding a drug dealer, a smuggler, who brought 743 pounds of marijuana across our southern border into Texas. These agents now face up to 20 years in Federal prison.

Agent Ramos served the Border Patrol for 9 years and was a former nominee for Border Patrol Agent of the Year. Agent Compean had 5 years of experience as a Border Patrol agent. These agents never should have been prosecuted for their actions last year.

By attempting to apprehend a Mexican drug smuggler, these agents were simply doing their job to protect the American people. These agents should have been commended for their actions, but instead the U.S. Attorney's office prosecuted the agents and granted full immunity to the drug smuggler for his testimony against our agents. The drug smuggler received full medical care in El Paso, Texas, was permitted to return to Mexico, and is now suing the Border Patrol for \$5 million for violating his constitutional rights. He is not an American citizen. He is a criminal.

Mr. Speaker, I have spoken to numerous people inside Texas and outside of Texas regarding this outrage, including the attorney for one of these agents. I have written the President of the United States asking him to please look into this matter. I have written two letters to Attorney General Gonzales asking him to reopen this case for a fuller investigation before these men are sentenced on October 19.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that the American people will agree that this prosecution is an outrageous injustice and that the situation must be investigated.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that fellow Members of the House will join me in this effort. I know Congresswoman SHEILA JACKSON-LEE and Congressman POE and Congressman GOHMERT have all said that they want to join in this effort to find out what has happened. I believe this is an injustice that needs to be looked into by the Attorney General and by the Congress of the United States.